

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 216390

63

ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 NEA-10 CU-02 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO;RCHEATER;JU

APPROVED BY IO;ROBLAKE

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NEA/IAI - WBSMITH

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P R 112109Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 216390

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO , IS, VT

SUBJ: UNESCO--VATICAN INTEREST IN ISRAELI/UNESCO

PROBLEM

FOR AMBASSADOR LODGE

REF: ROME 12915

1. DEPT. IS AWARE OF NO RPT NO ISRAELI COMMITMENT TO HALT OR CURTAIL THE JERUSALEM EXCAVATIONS. FROM TIME TO TIME, WE GET RUMORS THAT GOI IS READY TO MODIFY THE EXCAVATION SCHEDULE, BUT NOTHING HAS MATERIALIZED YET.

2. DIRECTOR-GENERAL M'BOW OF UNESCO SENT PROFESSOR RAYMOND LEMAIRE OF LOUVAIN UNIVERSITY TO JERUSALEM TO MAKE ON-THE-SPOT INVESTIGATION, BUT LEMAIRE'S REPORT HAS NEVER BEEN RELEASED. THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL HAS MADE CERTAIN REPORTS TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 216390

THE UNESCO EXECUTIVE BOARD ON THE EXCAVATIONS, BUT THEY

REFERRED ONLY TO MANNER IN WHICH THEY WERE BEING CARRIED OUT, AND DID NOT GIVE ANY INDICATION OF GOI INTENTIONS RE FUTURE EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES. THESE REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL CONTAINED BOTH GOOD AND BAD REMARKS ON GOIS

EXCAVATION ACTIVITIES.

3. RECENTLY, MESSRS. CONDON AND BOLLA OF THE UNESCO STAFF WENT TO JERUSALEM TO MAKE ANOTHER INVESTIGATION, BUT A SENIOR UNESCO OFFICIAL HAS INFORMED DEPT. THAT THEY RECEIVED COMPLETE REBUFF FROM GOI AND WERE UNABLE TO ACCOMPLISH ANY PART OF THEIR MISSION.

4. TEL AVIV AND JERUSALEM REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFO. THEY MAY HAVE. KISSINGER

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